Single window system for approval of irrigation projects

4318. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to set up a single window system for approval to irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, the action, if any, taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the information provided by the State Government, no such proposal has been initiated by Government of Karnataka.

(b) Does not arise.

Contaminated drinking water in various States

*4319. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that various diseases are spreading due to the use of contaminated drinking water in Haryana, Punjab and Delhi and the flouride content in water in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the concerned States made several attempts but they could not get success due to the lack of proper techniques; and

(c) whether Government would consider an effective National Policy in this regard and if so, the outline thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per studies carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, ground water in major parts of the country is by and large potable. However, ground water has been found contaminated in some parts of the country including in Haryana, Punjab and Delhi. Ground Water in parts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan is also affected by excess (more than 1.5 mg/l) flouride. Long term use of such ground water causes health hazards.

* Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide people with contamination free water. Much work has been done by the States to have alternative water supply source in areas affected by water quality problems.

The Department of Drinking Water Supply, under the Ministry of Rural Development, is rendering financial and technical assistance to the States for tackling water quality problems in rural areas on 75:25 funding pattern between Central Government and State Governments. With effect from 01.04.1998, powers have been delegated to the State Governments for sanctioning and implementings projects for tackling quality problem. 15% of financial assistance to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) have been earmarked for tackling quality problem.

Financial assistance for reclamation of water logged

4320. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals of State Governments seeking financial assistance for reclamation of water logged areas are pending with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for keeping the proposals pending; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central Government to clear those pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Clearance of Pench Vrihad project in Madhya Pradesh

*4321. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Pench Vrihad" project of Chhindwada district in Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Central Water Commission;

(b) if so, by when the clearance for investment in this project is likely to be granted;

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* Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.